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Message Text

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42
ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 COME-00 LOC-01 /041 R

DRAFTED BY EA/PHL:RTWILLNER:PAW
APPROVED BY EA/PHL:REUSHER
EB/CBA/BP:DLABRIE (DRAFT)
---------- 066288
R 231617Z NOV 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EIND, RP, US
SUBJECT: PHILIPPINE COPYRIGHT DECREE

REF: STATE 223410

1. MEETING BETWEEN NEDA DIRECTOR SICAT AND REPRESENTATIVES U.S. PUBLISHING INDUSTRY TOOK PLACE AT DEPARTMENT NOVEMBER 21. PUBLISHERS REPS INCLUDED TOWNSEND HOOPES, PRESIDENT, ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN PUBLISHERS; LEO ALBERT, PRENTICE-HALL INTERNATIONAL AND CHAIRMAN OF AAP INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMITTEE; CURTIS BENJAMIN, FORMER CHAIRMAN OF MCGRAW-HILL; AND JAN BAUMGARTEN FROM LINDEN AND DEUTSCH, LAW FIRM REPRESENTING MACMILLA, HARCOURT BRACE AND OTHERS NOT IN AAP.

2. PUBLISHERS STRESSED THEIR CONCERN THAT COPYRIGHT DECREE, BY PERMITTING UNLIMITED REPRINTING, WOULD LEAD TO FRAGMENTATION OF MARKET RESULTING IN SMALL-SCALE PRESS RUNS AND ACTUALLY HIGHER COSTS, WITH PHILIPPINE PUBLISHING INDUSTRY PRINCIPAL VICTIM. SICAT, STRESSING NEED TO REDUCE EXCESSIVE COST OF EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS, SAID THAT GOP HAD HEARD THIS ARGUMENT FROM PHILIPPINE PUBLISHERS, BUT
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BELIEVED THAT IN FACT RESULT WOULD NOT BE AS THEY

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PREDICTED. HE OBSERVED, HOWEVER, THAT DECREE WAS "TRANSI-TIONAL" AND THAT IF OUTCOME WAS NOT AS FAVORABLE AS GOP EXPECTED MATTER WOULD BE REVIEWED.

3. ALBERT THEN DESCRIBED ARRANGEMENT MADE WITH PAKISTAN (REFTEL) AND SAID PUBLISHERS WOULD PROBABLY BE PREPARED TO WORK WITH PUBLISHING INDUSTRY, THE GOVERNMENT, OR A FOUNDATION IF THEY COULD REACH AN AGREEMENT THAT WOULD ESTABLISH ADEQUATE PROTECTION OF THE COPYRIGHT PRINCIPLE. ALTHOUGH HE SAID GOVERNMENT DID NOT WANT TO UNDERTAKE REGULATORY ROLE, SICAT SUGGESTED ANY SUCH PROPOSALS BE PRESENTED IN WRITTEN FORM FOR REVIEW BY THE COMMITTEE DESIGNATED IN DECREE 285.

4. ALBERT EXPRESSED HOPE FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION DURING PLANNED VISIT TO MANILA EARLY 1974. MEMCON TO BE POUCHED. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 23 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: worrelsw
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